

SENATE LINE-UP ON PROHIBITION DUE THIS WEEK

Bill to Make District of
Columbia "Dry" Set
for Debate

HOUSE ANTI-LIQUOR
BY MAJORITY OF 20

But 145 Would Be Needed
to Speed Measure on
to Upper House

Washington, Dec. 16.—There are not more than four or five subjects now under discussion here which interest the entire country. One of the biggest of these is prohibition. There are some surprising angles to it. It creates more bitter feelings than suffrage. Many a hard drinker votes and talks dry. Many a total abstainer declines to vote for prohibition.

It already has been demonstrated—by the vote on the Hobson amendment in 1914—that a majority of the House of Representatives favors the submission of the forty-eight states of the proposal that complete prohibition of the manufacture, sale and use of alcoholic liquor be put into the Constitution. Within a few days it will be possible by means of the recall on the bill to make the District of Columbia dry to know accurately how the members of the United States Senate stand.

By a margin of one vote the Sheppard bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia was put into first place on the Senate calendar to-day, to be taken up next week and debated until it is disposed of or replaced by affirmative action. Senator Townsend, of Michigan, sought to keep the volunteer officers' retirement bill before the Senate as unfinished business, but a motion to substitute the Sheppard bill prevailed, 24 to 33.

Sees House Majority of 20

When the House voted on the Hobson amendment no one expected that the required two-thirds majority would be obtained. But a great many members of Congress were amazed and painfully shocked when the clerk announced a majority of eight in favor of the amendment. This past week the vote came on the same proposition again—this time it must, for the Judiciary Committee already has favorably reported the prohibition amendment—there will be a majority of at least twenty.

This is not mere speculation, nor is it the guess of the lobbyists of the anti-alcohol league. It is the opinion of the best informed observers who are, if anything, opposed to prohibition, and it is a deliberate judgment of the party whips whose business it is to know within a few votes how the House will divide on important questions. If anything, the majority in the House will be more than twenty. Of course, a majority of twenty is as useless as eight on the matter of referring to the states a proposal to amend the Constitution. The House has a membership of 435. A majority of 145 would be necessary to speed prohibition to the Senate. If the Senate passed it by a two-thirds majority then thirty-six of the forty-eight states would have to approve before the prohibition amendment became part of the Constitution. It is a easy to count thirteen states now which would refuse to become dry.

Half the States Now Dry

National prohibition remains then an abstract proposition for at least four years, and possibly ten or twenty. But some of the most conservative members of the Senate and the House believe it may come forward with a rush. Half the states of the Union already are dry. Each succeeding Congress contains a greater number of members who vote dry from conviction or who fear to vote wet because of the effect it may have on constituents. Assuming that the prohibition amendment some day will be submitted to the states, and assuming also that a few more states will have gone dry in the mean time, it would be pretty near a certainty that eventually the amendment would be adopted.

The situation thus created would have many elements of peril. Three-quarters of the states of the Union, with a minority of population, would be "imposing their will" in typical Prussian fashion on one-quarter of the states, with a majority of the population. These words are written after a canvass of all shades of opinion in Congress, among administrative officials, among propagandists for and against prohibition. The resultant on the mind of a neutral observer is clear.

First of all, it appears that the opinion thus obtained probably are a true reflection of the opinion of the whole country. Without attempting to say whether the final outcome of prohibition would be good or bad, it seems to be generally believed—omitting radical prohibitionists, of course—that the situation would be analogous to that obtaining in the South after the adoption of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments. Ways were found to nullify or evade them.

Liquor Lobbyists "Stupid"

It is the purpose of this article to state the situation as it exists here at present and to point out the immediate probabilities unless conditions change. Prohibition is certain to be imposed on the country unless the evils of the liquor business are greatly lessened and unless the associated liquor dealers and brewers of the United States begin to act with political intelligence. It is the unmistakable opinion in Congress that the "liquor fellows" in the lobby are stupid asses, in no way equal to their shrewd opponents in the prohibition lobby.

One instance of a lack of political acumen on the part of the "liquor fellows" proves the case, as a Federal legislator looks at it. In December, 1914, it was not Hobson, but the liquor crowd, who forced the amendment to a vote. Mr. Hobson and his friends did not know they had a majority, because a large number of the members had declined to express an opinion. Mr. Hobson wanted to leave the amendment in committee. A vote gave no tactical advantage to the liquor men, but they insisted just "to show Hobson."

"The distillers and brewers of the United States have themselves to blame for the present situation, which threatens to make this government take a step in paternalism which even a German would resent," said a member of the House who has sat in many Congresses. "If they do not act with intelligence very soon they need not be surprised if national prohibition and confiscation take them unawares."

Examples of Stupidity

"In what ways have they been acting with special stupidity?" "Well," he replied, "I'll give you a couple of instances that all the world knows about. Take my little town for example No. 1. Before we went 'no license' old St. Town, the village drunk, could drink himself blind in the saloons, which he frequently did, and then he permitted to take a bottle home with him. He used to beat his wife and children and break the furniture. He could look prohibition in the eye. He could have been stopped by a little intelligence on the part of the liquor dealer. Take New York for example No. 2. Walk up Seventh Avenue and you will pass from the corner, all owned by brewers. Four of them would be ample for the needs of the population. That's what we mean by unintelligence. They have the best part of the business. Bull-headedly they are on the way to lose it all."

Comparatively speaking prohibition for the District of Columbia, which has occupied almost the entire time of the Senate for days now, which is still before that body and which is still before the House, is not of great importance as against the main proposition. There is little doubt here that prohibition for the district will come within a very short time. Senator Sheppard, of Texas, aided by Western and Southern representatives of the prohibition states, is pressing the bill.

The bill imposing prohibition on the District is interesting in many ways. Senate Underwood, of Alabama, intends to fight for a referendum, permitting the people of the district to say whether they will have it or not. Senator Kern would amend the referendum to permit women as well as men to vote. Vandaman, of Mississippi, raves about the referendum because one-third of the population is colored, and Vandaman declares the purity of the unadulterated white race is threatened.

Baff Suspect Held in Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Moses Rosenstein, said by the police to be wanted in connection with the murder of Bernard Baff, of New York, was arrested here to-day. Rosenstein, the police declare, admitted that he was in New York November 1914, when Baff was slain, but denied complicity in the plot.

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| FUR MUFFS | | | | FUR NECKPIECES |
| \$21.00 Beaver, natural | | | | \$28.00 |
| 30.00 Kamaschatka Blue Fox, dyed | | | | 28.00 |
| 55.00 Rose Fox, dyed | | | | 55.00 |
| 25.00 Sitka Colored Fox, dyed | | | | 25.00 |
| 58.00 Taupe Fox, dyed | | | | 58.00 |
| 25.00 Kolinsky, dyed | | | | 35.00 |
| 15.00 Australian Opossum, natural | | | | 15.00 |
| 17.00 Raccoon, natural | | | | 16.50 |
| 24.00 Skunk, blended | | | | 21.00 |

The Winter Resort Season

soon to be opened, promises to establish a new record for social splendor. To be adequately prepared for its demands in the matter of dress, the woman of fashion should formulate her plans without delay.

ADVANCE MODES

sounding the keynote of style in Suits, Dresses, Coats, Hats, Bathing Costumes, Sports and Travel Clothes, are now being displayed in a choice collection.

Special Salespersons are detailed to act as escorts to patrons desiring assistance in their holiday shopping.

Practical Holiday Gifts

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Silver Mesh Coin Purse . . . \$12.00 | Shetland Wool Scarf . . . \$5.00 | Large Salts Bottles, filled . . \$2.50 |
| Silver Compotier . . . 14.50 | Marabout Cape Collar . . . 7.50 | Men's Soft Hat . . . 4.00 |
| Syrup Pitcher, silver-mounted, . 9.00 | Marabout Muff to match . . . 10.00 | Men's Raccoon Motor Cap . . 13.50 |
| Sugar Shaker, silver-mounted, . 3.00 | Evening Bandeau . . . 7.50 | Men's Seamless Eagle Buck |
| Silver Cake Server . . . 3.10 | Women's Hat Box of black enamel duck; with two hat forms and pockets . . . 5.00 | Gloves, wool-lined . . . 3.25 |
| Glove Stretcher, silver-mounted, . 4.00 | Folding Umbrella (for travel use) for Men or Women . . . 5.00 | Fur Foot Warmer, for motor use . . . 16.50 |
| Little Children's Silver Set (3 pieces) . . . 4.50 | Boys' Walking Stick . . . 1.00 | Misses' Eiderdown Robe (16 years) . . . 3.75 |
| Electric Chafing Dish . . . 14.00 | Children's Marvex Kid Gloves, 1.75 | Corsage Sachets, package of six . . . 1.25 |
| Electric Coffee Percolator . . . 9.00 | Little Children's Kid Gloves . . 1.25 | Telephone Book . . . 3.00 |
| 1917 Diary . . . 1.00 | Infants' Wool Mittens65 | Book-marker, silver-mounted, 1.00 |
| Perpetual Calendar . . . 1.50 | Infants' Cashmere Sacque, hand-embroidered . . . 1.95 | Silk-covered Coat Hanger . . .65 |
| Engagement Book . . . 2.50 | Worsted Afghan . . . 2.50 | Silk-covered Hat Form . . . 1.25 |
| Etched Metal Pen Holder (Japanese) . . . 2.50 | Little Children's Fur Set (collar and muff) of white coney, with black tails . . . 4.90 | Hand-painted Waste Basket . . 5.50 |
| Cabinet of Stationery . . . 3.75 | Bridge Pad of brushed brass . . 3.75 | Hand-made Byzantine Center-piece (French) . . . 4.50 |
| Boudoir Desk Set of decorated wood (5 pieces) . . . 7.50 | | |
| Desk Set of California redwood (6 pieces) . . . 35.00 | | |

The silver articles quoted are sterling; the gold are 14-karat.

Women's Black Silk Hose

will be on sale to-morrow at the special price of

\$1.10 per pair

(Three pairs for \$3.00)

An Interesting Sale of Infants' & Little Children's Wear

will offer unusual values to-morrow

Imported Nainsook Dresses

hand-made and hand-embroidered:

Short Dresses (yoke or collar style); sizes up to 2½ years . . . \$1.25

Empire Dresses; sizes up to 3 years . . . 2.85

Japanese Silk Hand-embroidered Sacques in pale blue or pink . . . \$1.90

Japanese Silk Hand-embroidered Wrappers in pale blue or pink . . . \$3.85

Imported Hand-embroidered Bibs of nainsook . . . 55c.

Imported Hand-embroidered Pillow Cases of nainsook . . . \$1.45

(Second Floor)

Little Children's Wool Sweater Suits

(sizes 2 to 6 years)

will constitute a Monday Sale of reasonable interest at the very exceptional price of

\$5.00 per complete suit

These Suits consist of Sweater, Cap, Mittens and Leggings to match, and are made of brushed wool in white, castor, Tokio blue and Oxford gray. Comfortable, attractive and popular as they are, no more welcome gift can be chosen for the little girl or boy.

(Hosiery Department, First Floor)

Dainty Aprons

for women of housewifely tastes as well as for the maids of the household, are shown in a large and most attractive assortment on the Second Floor.

Here are Aprons made of sheer lawn, organdy or dotted Swiss; of plain taffeta; or of the more serviceable muslins and cambrics—each designed for a definite and distinctly useful purpose. In regular stock are

Hand-sewn and hand-embroidered Aprons at . . . \$2.50 to 32.00
Princess Aprons . . . at 50c. to 8.75
Fancy and Tea Aprons . . . at 50c. to 4.50
Maids' Aprons . . . at 25c. to 3.75

A Pre-Holiday Sale of Linens

(DECORATIVE AND PRACTICAL)

will be held to-morrow and Tuesday. Very attractive values will be obtainable in

Madeira Tea Napkins

hand-scalloped and hand-embroidered per dozen . . . \$6.00 & 6.75

Madeira Luncheon Sets (13 pieces)

consisting of 24-inch centerpiece, six 6-inch doilies and six 10-inch doilies; all hand-scalloped and hand-embroidered, per set . . . \$4.00

Madeira Centerpieces (27-inch)

elaborately hand-embroidered, each \$4.25

Fine Hand-crocheted Luncheon Sets (25 pieces) consisting of 24-inch centerpiece, twelve 6-inch doilies and twelve 10-inch doilies; per set . . . \$7.50

Linen Damask Table Cloths

each . . . \$3.20, 3.50 & 4.50

Linen Damask Napkins

per dozen . . . \$2.75, 3.75 & 4.25

(Fourth Floor)

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This house presents a rich assortment at \$50 to \$100, as well as at those higher prices which represent the present intrinsic values of the rarest furs.

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Men's fur lined coats, \$75 to \$700.

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High-cost Furs and Fur Garments

Women's Gowns and Tailor Suits
Misses' Coats and Suits
Women's Coats and Wraps

Women's and Misses' Sweaters
Men's and Boys' Furnishings
Jewelry and Silverware

Leather Goods & Toilet Articles
Art Needlework & Fancy Novelties
Lamps and Lamp Shades